

# The Postal History of Waterlooville including Cosham, Widley, Purbrook, Denmead, Hambledon, Cowplain, Lovedean, Horndean and Chalton



by Mike Hill

July 2015



£5





Tourist Map of 1991 showing the locations of Post Offices in the Waterlooville area.

## Havant Borough History Booklet No. 52

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Read also Booklet No. 38:

*A History of the Post Office in the Havant Area*

Edited by Ralph Cousins



# The Postal History of Waterlooville including Cosham, Widley, Purbrook, Denmead, Hambledon, Cowplain, Lovedean, Horndean and Chalton

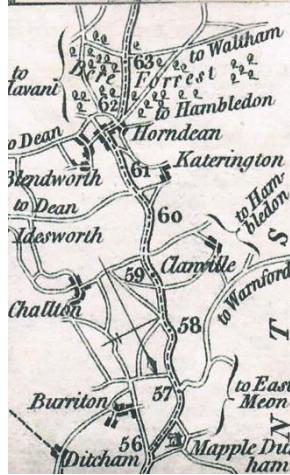
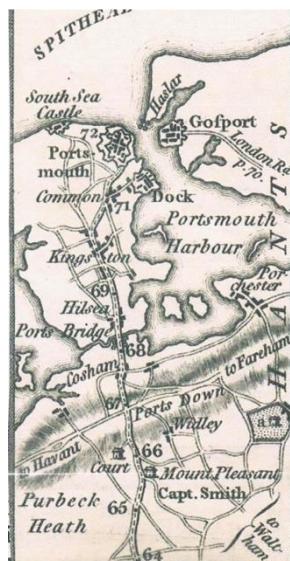
Mike Hill

## Introduction

The Waterlooville Philatelic Society was formed at the time of the great stamp collecting boom of the early 1970s and as a founder member I discovered that there was little information about the postal history of the local area since the founding of the village in 1815 some 200 years ago. Thus I was encouraged to start out on a journey of exploration into the history of postal services in the local area, a journey which has given me many hours of enjoyment. What I have achieved has been helped enormously by those of the Waterlooville Philatelic Society notably the late Eric Whyley and Mike English, and also the late Geoffrey Salter of the Waterlooville Library. Much of my research was published in the *Journal of the Hampshire Postal History Society* of which I was editor for a number of years. I must also thank David Coxon whose father took over from George Pook as postmaster in the early fifties for his memories and Paul Costen [[www.costen.co.uk](http://www.costen.co.uk)] who allowed me access to his scanned collection of postcards to search for Post Offices.

Sitting astride the Post Road from Portsmouth to London, later to be known as the A3 it was to become an important village and now of course a town in its own right which continues to grow. The road itself grew in importance and the tracks that threaded through the Forest of Bere assumed great importance from Tudor times with the growth of the Royal Navy. It was one of the first roads to be administered by a Turnpike Trust in 1710 and local historians are fortunate that the original minute book survives. Postal charges were based on the distance from London and were carefully recorded in books and maps.

Hind Head Hill	-	4 $\frac{2}{3}$	41 $\frac{1}{4}$	A
r. to Liphook, t. g.				A
Hants	- - -	5 $\frac{1}{4}$	46 $\frac{1}{2}$	A
r. to Rake, Suffex	-	3 $\frac{5}{8}$	50 $\frac{1}{2}$	A
Sheet Bridge, t. g.				A
Hants	- - -	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	53 $\frac{5}{8}$	A
¶ Petersfield, Junction of Road from Midhurst	- - -	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	54 $\frac{1}{2}$	A
At Petersfield, r. to Alton.				
Horndean	- - -	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 $\frac{3}{8}$	
Over the Forest of Bere to White Lane End	-	3	65 $\frac{1}{2}$	T
Purbrook	- - -	7 $\frac{1}{8}$	66 $\frac{1}{4}$	T
Cosham, Junction of Road from Havant		1 $\frac{7}{8}$	68 $\frac{1}{2}$	E
r. to Fareham; l. to Havant.				T
Enter Portsea Island.				C
Hilsea	- - -	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	69 $\frac{1}{4}$	C
Half-way Houses	-	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	71 $\frac{1}{4}$	C
¶ Portsmouth, Crown		1	72 $\frac{1}{4}$	P
Cross the Ferry to Gosport.				T



Mileages extracted from *Paterson's Roads* edition of 1799 and a strip map from the 1785 edition.

It will be noted that Horndean is shown as 7½ miles from Petersfield and some 62 miles from London Bridge then it is through the Forest of Bere to White Lane End 3 miles and a further 7/8 of a mile to Purbrook and 2 7/8 miles to Cosham, 68 miles from London Bridge.

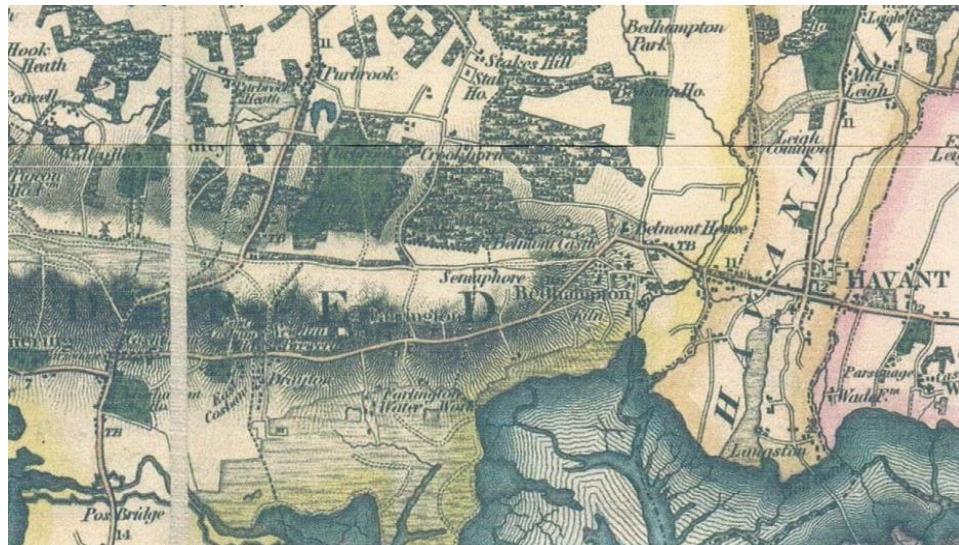
The Ship and Bell Inn at Horndean was an important coaching stop. It was probably here that Samuel Pepys took a guide through the forest who he claimed in his diary *took him much out of his way* on one of his many visits to Portsmouth.

White Lane End, Waite Lane End or Wheat Lane End, was situated just south of the cross roads and began to assume more importance with the Disafforestation Act of 1810 which allowed development of the Forest of Bere. The London to Portsmouth Mail Coach passed in both directions at night but did not stop.

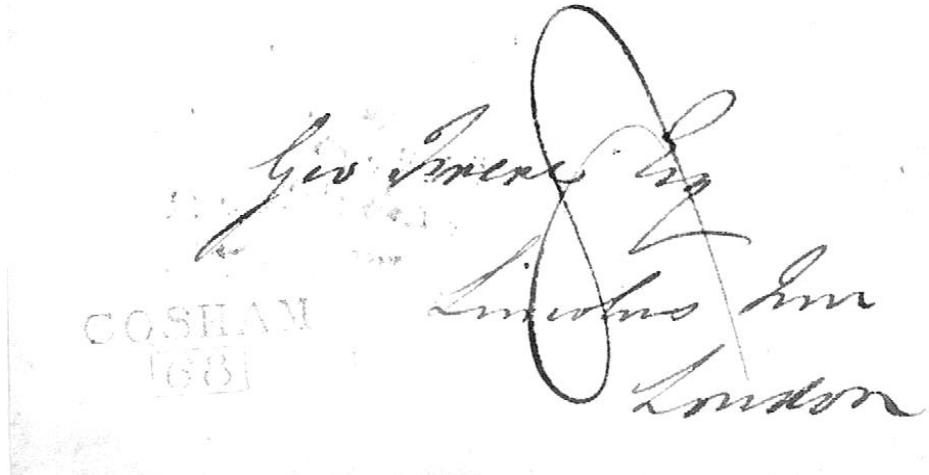
## Portsmouth

The first recorded postmark for Portsmouth dates from 1705 and the towns postal history is recorded in *The Post in Portsmouth* by Cyril A Sinfield MBE in 1982 which has now been updated by Malcolm Montgomery MBE (2011) with copies available from the Portsmouth & District Philatelic Society, price £20.

## Cosham



Established by 1695.



1803 – First recorded postmark

## COSHAM

22 March 1817 – Boxed Mileage Type 29

68

27 September 1841 – Undated Circle issued

February 1854 – Thomas Brown Baker, Postmaster, appointment confirmed  
20 May 1854

1855 – Thomas Brown Baker, Receiver. *Post Office Directory*

2 January 1855 – Money Order facilities provided

1859 – Thomas Brown Baker, Postmaster, Chemist and Druggist next to the  
Swan Hotel

9 December 1861 – Savings Branch facilities provided

1 October 1864 – Administered by Fareham

1865 – Became a Railway Sorting Office



Three of the five examples of the barred numeral cancellations first introduced in October 1865 remaining in use until 1905.

1870 – Telegraphic facilities provided, call sign CMO

19 June 1893 – Mr T B Baker retired after 39-years-service At his testimonial at a meeting held in Cosham on Saturday 9 September 1893 it was reported that in 1834 correspondence was brought in and again despatched in one sealed bag only being 65 in and 75 out. Since then the following duties have been devolved upon Cosham: Money Orders, Savings Bank, Government Life Insurances, Issue of Licences, Payment of Pensions and Annuities, Telegraph System, Postal Orders and Parcel Post. Within the last few years the whole of the sorting work for the district including the Sub-Post Offices of Hilsea, Waterlooville, Purbrook, Stakes, Denmead, Hambledon and Horndean had been added to Cosham with the present number of letters and parcel receptacles dealt with daily being over 86. As many as 140 telegraphic messages had been transmitted in one day and the daily average of letters dealt with was now about 2,100.

Mr Baker reported that during his long service there had been no cases of dishonesty or peculation connected with the Cosham Post Office and no occasion had arisen that required intervention from the police or censure from the Central Office.

June 1893 – Mr Henry Charles Hewlett appointed Sub-Postmaster with his wife Helen as Post Office assistant (late of Horndean Post Office)

1901 – Designated as a Railway Sorting Office



1 August 1905 – Sorting Office and Post Town

1911 – Henry Charles Hewlett, Sub-Postmaster, age 48 years, Ellen Hewlett Counter Assistant and Telegraphist

1921 – Henry Charles Hewlett dies

1930 May 1938 – E J Simmons, Postmaster

5 December 1932 – Administered by Portsmouth

May 1938 – Walter John Barnes, Postmaster

1951 – New premises opened Northern Parade

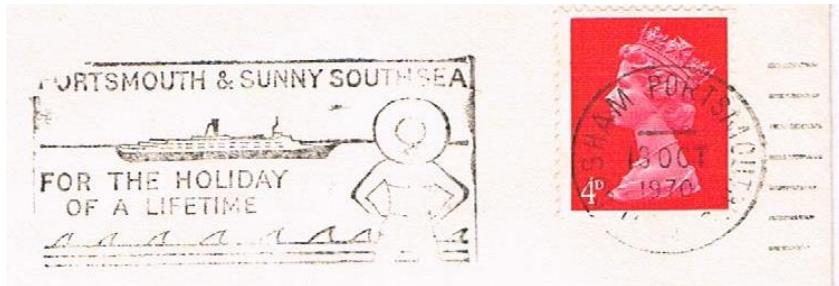
July 1953 – Re-classified as a Sub-Post Office and will therefore not be open on Sundays

1954 – Rural status

By 1955 – Town Sorting Office

2015 Post Office at 13 The High Street, Cosham, PO6 3EH





Two postal slogans used at Cosham.

## Widley

Established 1931 – Administered by Cosham

From 5 December 1932 – Administered by Portsmouth and located at 74 London Road. It had a small delivery office which was integrated into the main sorting office at Waterlooville.

1943 – A T Garner, Sub-Postmaster

18 March 1935 – Telegraphic facilities provided, call sign VIU

From 11 April 1990 – Administered by Waterlooville Crown Office

3 March 2004 – Closed

## Purbrook

16 September 1807 – Freeling Minute:

*Since that time Lord Keith who has residence at Purbrook has strongly applied for an arrangement to enable him to receive his letters earlier which, as they relate to the public service, is an object of some importance to him. He proposes that the Havant bags be left at Horndean to be despatched from thence six days a week by a man and horse who are to wait while the Emsworth letters are sorted and then to proceed to that place and with this is connected an arrangement for delivering Lord Keith's pouch at Purbrook and effecting the distribution of letters in the village. The result in point of time will be that his Lordship will receive his letters between 8 and 9am instead of 11 and 12am and the pence which he*

*pays for the present accommodation will be commuted to two guineas per annum. The Havant letters would arrive there at 7am instead of 10am and those for Emsworth at about 7.30am instead of nearly 11am.*



Viscount Keith

*The Deputy of Horndean for conveying the bag to Havant by man and horse £25 per annum. For a receiving house at Purbrook £3 3s. 0d. per annum. To the sub-deputy of Cosham £9 2s. 6d. compensation per annum during his continuance in office.*

*The delivery of letters at Lord Keith's and at Purbrook to be taken out of the hands of the deputy at Cosham and he retains the delivery at Cosham and Hilsea with the profits attached to them and this same allowance is to enable him to defray his expense of sending a person to Hilsea with the letters.*

2 February 1808 – Freeling Minute 28a:

*The expense of the horse post which would be necessary if Purbrook were not in the arrangement is so heavy that the Postmaster at Horndean has*

*earnestly desired to give it up ... Revenue does not justify expense. Propose that the Purbrook letters shall, as formerly, be obtained from Portsmouth and that a foot messenger shall carry the Havant bag costing 12s. per week saving £6 1s. 0d. Lord Keith is but a very short distance from the Post Town of Havant from whence his letters will be obtained.*

1813 – Established as Receiving Office No. 5. A Sub-Post Office administered by Portsmouth

1855 – Mrs Mary Leaver, Receiver and Grocer

27 September 1841 – Undated Circle issued and recorded in use until 1853



A thimble post mark Oc 7 1906 with an alpha time code [C]



1861 – Mrs Mary Leaver, Postmistress. *Census*

1 October 1864 – Administered by Fareham

1866 – Administered by Cosham Railway Sorting Office

June 1885 – Telegraphic Office call sign PUR

1891 – James Ford Postmaster. *Census*

1901 – James Ford, Postmaster and Miss Alice Maud Ford, Postmistress. *Census*

April 1911 – Miss Alice Maud Ford, Sub-Postmistress. *Census*

5 December 1932 – Administered by Portsmouth



Purbrook Post Office, fifth porch on the left.



Purbrook Post Office circa 1930s. The road on the right was known as Van Diemen's Lane but was subsequently re-named Post Office Road.

February 1952 – A thief entered the premises through the roof but was unable to open the safe

From 11 April 1990 – Administered by Waterlooville

2015 – One Stop Post Office, 10 London Road, Purbrook, PO7 5LJ

### Crookhorn Lane near Purbrook

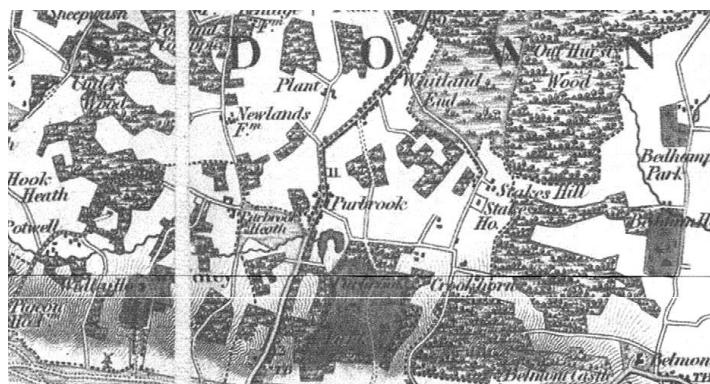
17 February 1970 – Established at 7 Purbrook Chase, The Precinct, PO7 7QH. Administered by Portsmouth

11 April 1990 – Administered by Waterlooville Crown Office

2015 – Crookhorn Lane Post Office, 8 Crookhorn Lane, PO7 5QE

### Fort Purbrook

Opened by 15 September 1914. Administered by Portsmouth through Cosham RSO. Closed by 10 November 1914. Used as a transit camp at the outbreak of World War One.

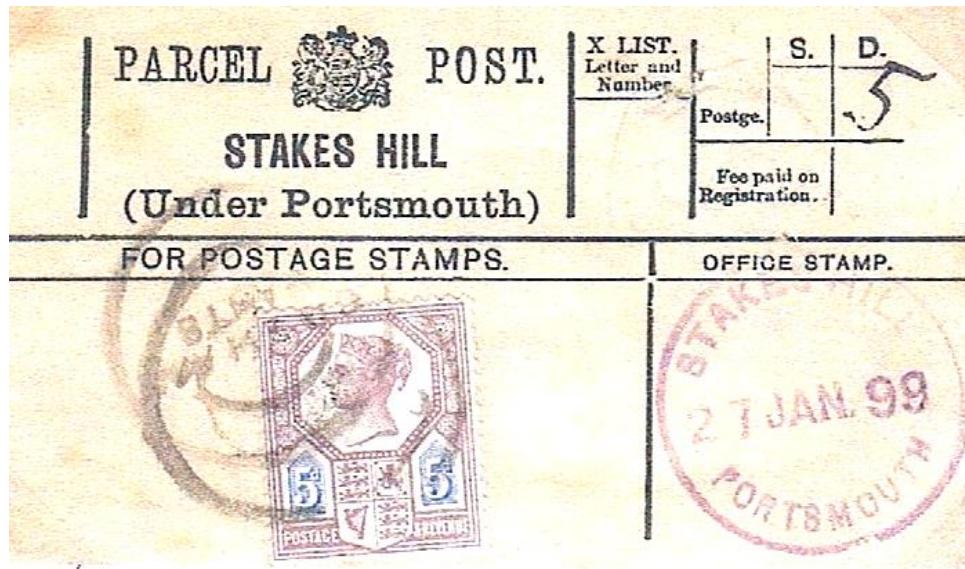


### Stakes Hill

Established by July 1885 – Administered by Cosham Railway Sorting Office

1892 – Charles James K Marshall died and his wife moved from London to Stakes Hill Road Post Office where she became the Postmistress.

1896 – Rubber handstamp issued



The 5d. stamp is cancelled by the Cosham undated rubber parcel handstamp.

1901 – Charles Herbert Marshall has started his photographic career

1902 – Administered by Portsmouth



1903. Mrs Marshall outside the Post Office at Stakes Hill.

1907 – Administered by Cosham, Mrs Louisa M Marshall, Sub-Postmistress. *Kelly's Directory*

1915 – Administered by Waterlooville

1923 – Mrs Louisa M Marshall, Sub-Postmistress. *Kelly's Directory*

9 July 1924 – Closed. Mrs Marshall died four years later, age 77, at Fairleigh, 151 London Road, the home of her son Charles Herbert Taylor Marshall, photographer.

5 March 1990 – Reopened. Administered by Waterlooville Crown Office

2 April 2008 – Closed

## Waterlooville

Established 1847 – Administered by Portsmouth

3 December 1847 – The first recorded postmark was an undated, double arc 'sans serif' mark in a blue/green ink which was issued to Edward Yeulett when the office was established in 1847. These undated handstamps were only issued to offices with income under £1,000 per annum.



The name Waterloo-ville may have been dictated by the Post Office to differentiate it from the Waterloo in London and Liverpool although the name came into use in May 1832.

1851 – James Restall, Baker and Grocer, Stakes Road, Farlington. *Census*



17 June 1855. Franked at Waterlooville and Portsmouth.

1855 – William Henry Yeulett, Grocer and Postmaster. *Post Office Directory*

1859 – James Restall listed as Postmaster. *Whites Directory*

1861 – James Restall, Baker and Grocer, Stakes Road, Farlington. *Census*

1865 – James Restall, Baker and Grocer, Sub Postmaster, Stakes Road, Administered by Fareham. *Post Office Directory*

1870 – Administered by Cosham Railway Sorting Office

1871 – James Restall, Baker and Grocer, Stakes Road, Farlington. *Census*

1881 – James Restall, Grocer and Postmaster, Stakes Road, Farlington. *Census*

14 December 1882 – Telegraph Office opened. *Post Office Directory*

December 1884 – Number H34 allocated. The time of posting is shown by an alpha code, which was replaced by time in full in the 1890s.

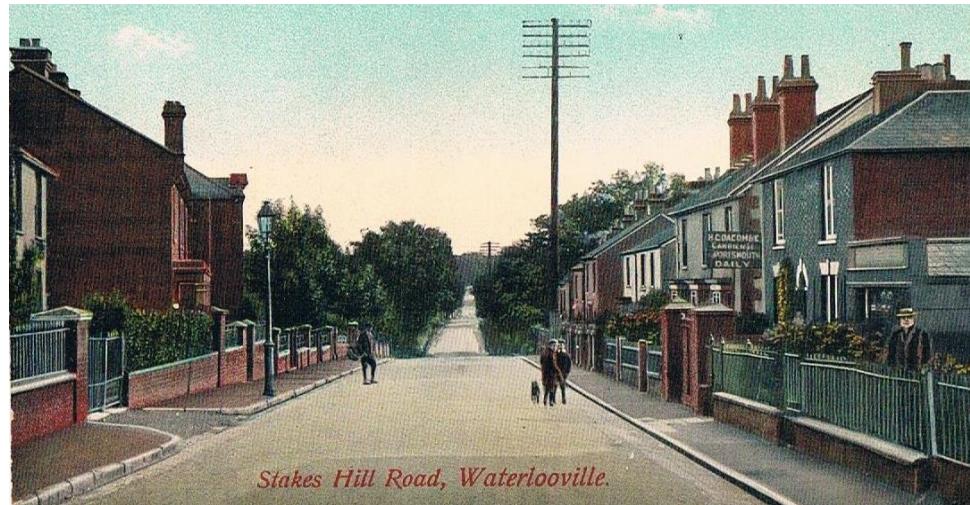


1891 – James Restall, Baker and Grocer, Swiss Road, Waterlooville. *Census*

1894 – The dated Double Ring Postmark introduced and in use until the 1920s

1901 – George Carswell Pook, age 30, Sub Postmaster and Stationer, Stakes Hill Road, Farlington

The 1901 census states that the Post Office was between Henry Wadham's drapery business on the corner of the London Road and Henry Dacombe's carriers business in Stakes Hill Road.



This postcard published by G C Pook it is the first building on the right possibly destroyed later to provide access to the London Road shops now Lloyds Bank. Dacombe's building survives as the Tile Shop.

1907 – George Carswell Pook, Sub-Postmaster



Waterlooville Skeleton Postmarks.

These were a temporary datestamp made up from loose type to replace one lost or broken or for use on an exceptional quantity of mail. Extremely rare as they were only in use for a few weeks. Ethel Kate Rundle was an assistant at this time and eventually, in December 1915, married Herbert Marshall at her home in Knightsbridge, Devon.



James Restall's grocery business before his nephew George Carswell Pook took over the premises and it was extended and became the Waterlooville Post Office. The occasion was the East Pack of the Hambleton Hounds' meet at the crossroads.



Similar views exist when his Uncle James Restall moved into these premises with his grocery business. When he retired George Pook moved the Post Office and Stationery business into this site having extended the shop front. Signs in the shop window refer to Photo Frames, Picture Postcards and Circulating Library. Note the water pump in front of the side entrance on the left and on the right the Hambledon Road entrance to the garden which backed onto Swiss Road. From here it was but a short walk to St George's Church where he was a lay preacher.



Visitors to Waterlooville should not fail to visit

149

**GEORGE C. POOK,**  
*At the Post Office,*  
FOR  
**Local View Post Cards & Novelties**  
CIRCULATING LIBRARY (in connection with Mudie's)  
**STATIONER, BOOKSELLER & NEWSAGENT.**

George Carswell Pook

1923 – George Carswell Pook, Sub-Postmaster and Stationer. *Kelly's Directory*



31 August 1932 – The evening postal delivery service suspended on Wednesdays. Letters which may arrive by evening mail may however be obtained by application at the office. All other services remain unaltered.

1933 – Administered by Portsmouth



Waterlooville/Portsmouth/Hants  
2.15pm 28 NO 39

1939 – George Carswell Pook, Sub-Postmaster, Newsagent Tel. No. 2274.  
*Kelly's Directory*

14 June 1950 – Post Office Assistant Ethel Peggy Phillips of Maralyn Avenue witness in a case involving theft by falsification of Post Office Savings Bank Savings Book.

15 Feb 1951 – George Carswell Pook died, age 80, and the business became Pook & Coxon Newsagents. His estate was valued at £39,614 15s. 2d. [Value today between £1.1 and £4.9 million.]



The old premises now taken over by the National Provincial Bank and the Post Office now in S E Coxon's premises.

1951 – 1960 Stanley Edward Coxon Sub-Postmaster. [Having previously had a newsagents business at 236 Kingston Road, Portsmouth.]

1959 – The Universal machine cancellation introduced, 'W'looville Portsmouth Hants', with seven continuous wavy lines.



Postmarked 8 SEP 1965. Innsbruck (Austria) – Waterlooville – Portsmouth.

1960 – Opened in ex-Admiralty huts. [By the telephone exchange.]



These premises were abandoned when a custom-built Post Office opened in 1975 at Swiss Road complete with its own sorting office.



Short lived premises in Swiss Road.

1976 - Universal machine cancellation with Post Code slogan

1980 - 4th Type dated double ring Postmark used for special purposes

11 April 1990 - Became a Post Town and Crown Office in its own right



Dear Customer

Last year due to the growth that had occurred in the Waterlooville area, it was necessary to give Waterlooville post town status in its own right. At the time we sent cards to all the residents and businesses informing them of their postal address.

We are, however, still receiving considerable volumes of mail addressed to Waterlooville, Portsmouth and as a result, has to pass through our Portsmouth Sorting Office, rather than going direct to the Waterlooville Delivery Office. In doing so it can have an adverse affect on the service we give to you.

Can I ask you to therefore check that you and your correspondents are using your correct postal address.

You may also be interested to know that in the near future, Royal Mail will be opening a new Delivery Office for the Waterlooville area situated in Waterberry Drive. This major investment is part of our commitment to improve the service and facilities we offer to our customers.

If you should have any queries about the matter, or any other Royal Mail services, please contact our Customer Care Unit on either Portsmouth 835317 or 835318.

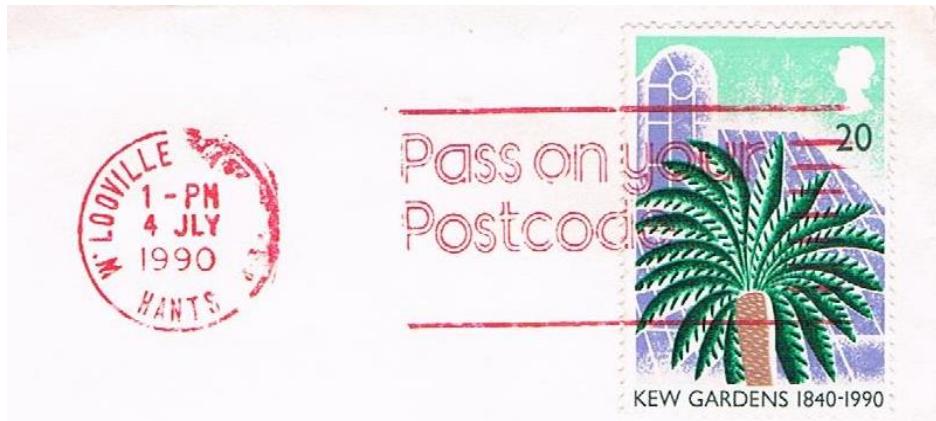
I look forward to your co-operation in helping us to further improve the service we give.

Yours faithfully

DEREK PINCH  
District Customer Care Manager



Commemorative medal marking the 150th anniversary of the first Postage Stamp. Presented to everyone working for Royal Mail. 6 May 1990.



Until a new datestamp was received the word Portsmouth was removed from existing dies by filing. A temporary conversion reading W'LOOVILLE HANTS. Red ink was only used between 10 January and 16 September after the introduction of the Penny Black commemorative stamps.



Second Class Post so no time recorded. Universal cancellation with: 'Pass on Your Post Code'.

10 March 1992 – New delivery office opened in Waterberry Drive with a staff of 134

# Havant Borough History Booklets



August 2016  
Compiled by Ralph Cousins  
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023 9248 4024

Printed by Park Community Enterprises

All booklets printed in A5 size except those marked\* which  
are A4

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Copies also on sale at the Spring Arts and Heritage Centre,  
East Street, HAVANT, PO9 1BS. 023 9247 2700

# Havant Borough History Booklets

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- 2 A Brief History of Stockheath £3
- 3 A Brief History of the Railway in Havant £6
- 4 The Arrival of the Railway in Emsworth
- 5 A Collection of Articles on Hayling Island, Vol. 1 £6
- 6 A Short History of Emsworth and Warblington £6
- 7 The Bedhampton War Memorial £1.50
- 8\* Belmont Park £2
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- 10 The Edgar Borrow Foundation 50p
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- 19 Farms in the Leigh Park Area £3
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Park Community Enterprises is a not for profit company that has been setup by four senior members of staff at Park Community School to enable students to gain training, work experience and key employability skills. This has been achieved by the setting up of a number of small commercial businesses at which students take part in all of the stages of running a small business, the first of these is Park Design and Print. Park Design and Print have a range of modern digital printing equipment and are able to produce, to a commercial standard, a full range of printed and personalised promotional items.

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**Signage and Graphics:** Internal and External Signage, Vehicle Graphics and Wraps, together with a full design service.



**educating  
and inspiring  
young people**

Established to give young people real life work experience

1995 – The premises in Swiss Road were vacated and the Post Office transferred to retail premises in Wellington Way where they remain today. Bigger premises however led to a series of industrial disputes between 2001 and 2003 as the Post Office went through a re-structuring process, cutting working hours and staff.



The Post Office in Wellington Way.

April 2003 – Revised collection schedules introduced

April 2015 – Collection schedules revised to one a day



0 7  
0 1  
0 4  
6 8  
2 6  
3 2  
7 3



0 0  
0 C  
2 3  
1 8  
2 0  
8 1  
9 5



Modern pre-paid postage using machine cancellations. Examples show the changes in the discounted rates given to businesses operating this method of mailing.

## Waterlooville Jubilee Road

1923 – Walled Letter Box cleared at 8.40am, 1.15pm and 8.45pm. Sundays 5.30pm



### Last Collection Time

Monday to Friday

**9.00am**

A 4.00pm or later collection is made from the Postbox at Wallis Road, Junction London Road

The latest collection in the area is made at 6.30pm from Waterlooville Delivery Office, Waterberry Drive

Saturday  
**7.00am**

2007 – The pillar box at the corner of Avondale Road and London Road was moved here when the A3 bus corridor was built. It had previously been on the opposite corner. Collection times in 2015.

## Waterlooville, London Road



Post box with storage attached for bagged mail to be picked for delivery by the postman.



Today's post bag and my postman Greig, June 2015.

**KEYS NEWS HIGHFIELD**  
WATERLOOVILLE  
SEE OUR WEB SITE  
**WWW.KEYSTRIPS.CO.UK**

0 1  
0 3  
0 4  
8 1  
3 2  
5 8  
5 5



**KEYS NEWS HIGHFIELD**  
WATERLOOVILLE  
SEE OUR WEB SITE  
**WWW.KEYSTRIPS.CO.UK**

0 B  
0 9  
0 A  
8 8  
3 3  
7 9  
5 6



Lt Cdr M J Hill Royal Navy  
151 London Road  
Waterlooville  
Hampshire  
PO7 7SL

Two letters, First and Second class mail, posted on 18 June 2015, the 200th Anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo.

Waterlooville, Hambledon Road

2013 – Hambledon Parade

Hart Plain near Waterlooville

9 Nov 1960 – Administered by Portsmouth

11 April 1990 – Administered by Waterlooville Crown Office

9 June 2014 – Local Post Office

Hazleton near Cowplain

Established 1966 – Administered by Portsmouth

11 – April 1990 – Administered by Waterlooville Crown Office

11 September 2004 – Closed

## Denmead

July 1885 – Established in the premises of Walter Thomas Restall.  
Administered by Cosham

2 July 1886 – Rubber handstamp issued

2 July 1888 – Money Order and Savings Branch facilities provided

1891 – Walter Thomas Restall, Grocer, Baker, Coal Merchant. *Census*

1901 – Walter Thomas Restall, Grocer and Draper. *Census*

1903 – Walter Thomas Restall, Grocer, Baker and Postmaster. *Kelly's Directory*

Single circle 26mm. No Code or time used.  
Date and year only.

Recorded in use from 1904 to 1908.



1911 – Walter Thomas Restall, Grocer and Postmaster, *Census*

5 December 1932 – Administered by Portsmouth

1936 – Gerald Restall takes over as Postmaster following the death of his father and continues until he dies in December 1974

11 April 1990 – Administered by Waterlooville Crown Office

27 May 2011 – Re-located in Co-operative Store

2015 – Denmead Post Office, Hambledon Road, Denmead, PO7 6NU



The horse-drawn delivery van was replaced in 1921 with a motor van.

## Hambleton with Horndean



Established by 1793 under Alton

28 May 1838 – Receiving Office No. 1 for Horndean

1841 – Mrs Eliza Tribe age 55 living at the Post Office. *Census*

30 May 1843 – Undated Circle issued. Administered by Horndean, a Sub-Post Office from 1884

1851 – Mrs Eliza Tribe, age 64, Lodging House Keeper. Population 2052. *Census*

1855 – Mrs Eliza Tribe, Postmistress. *Post Office Directory*

2 April 1860 – Money Order facilities provided

1861 – Mrs Elizabeth Brain, age 77, Postmistress. *Census*

16 December 1861 – Savings Branch facilities



The first roadside pillar boxes appeared in 1852.

The first national standard pillar box was made by Cochrane, Grove and Company of Dudley 1859-66.

This one is still in use at Worlds End near Hambledon and is one of only nine boxes that have survived.

1871 – Miss Eliza Brain, age 52, Postmistress. *Census*

6 December 1871 – Telegraphic facilities provided call sign HBH

1881 – Miss Eliza Brain, age 59, Postmistress, Civil Service Clerk. *Census*

1 December 1884 – Sorting Office

1888 – Administered by Cosham

1891 – Miss Eliza Brain, age 69, Postmistress. Administered by Cosham Railway Sorting Office. Population 2025. *Census*

1895 – Eliza Brain died. Her age was recorded as 83 years but this is at variance with her age as recorded in various censuses and the Hambledon Church Records record her baptism on 7 January 1816, which would make her 79-years-old.

1898 – James Hunt, Sub-Postmaster

1901 – James Hunt, Sub-Postmaster. *Census*

1911 – William Ernest Hunt Postmaster, General Agent, Printer, Dyemaking, Newsagent (Shopkeeper). *Census*. Mr Henry Bennett, an army pensioner was

the Postman and Instructor for the 3rd Volunteer Regiment and his son Henry George Bennett was the Post Office Messenger.



The Hambledon Post Office Staff circa 1906. © Joan Norman, Denmead Village Association.

Hambledon Skeleton Postmark



5 December 1932 – Administered by Portsmouth

11 April 1990 – Administered by Waterloo Crown Office

16 July 2001 – Closed

1 February 2002 – Re-opened

29 April 2002 – Closed

19 January 2004 – Re-opened

September 2014 – Closed

2015 – Peoples Market, West Street, open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday mornings only. PO7 4RW

## Cowplain



Established 1897 – Administered by Cosham Railway Sorting Office. Rubber handstamp issued

1901 – William G Grant, Postmaster

April 1911 – John Harcourt, Sub-Postmaster with wife Martha Harcourt and daughter Bessie as assistants. *Census*

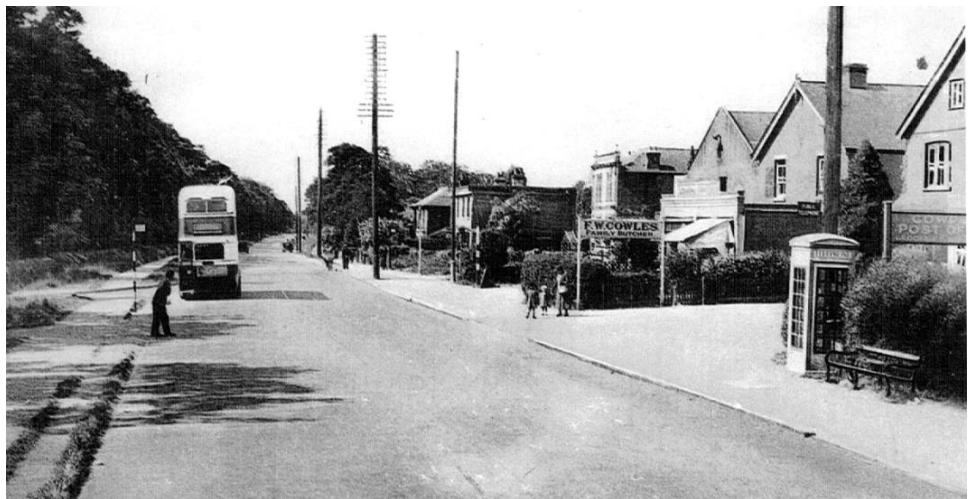
5 December 1932 – Administered by Portsmouth

28 August 1933 – Telegraphic facilities provided call sign ZXP



Cowplain.

1939-60 – Edward John Harcourt, Sub-Postmaster, Grocer, 39 London Road, then 45 London Road, Waterlooville. Tel. 2271. *Kelly's Directory, Havant Directory, 1960*



The Premises were extended in the late 1930s. Possibly 1938 looking south. Southdown Motor services have taken over from the Portsmouth-Horndean Light railway and the post office has acquired a telephone kiosk.



1961. On the corner of Kings Road and London Road.

1970 – Postmaster was George Lothar Frenkel who produced his own first day covers over the next 15 years until his untimely death in 1985. He was also a member of the Waterlooville Philatelic Society.

11 April 1990 – Administered by Waterlooville Crown Office

2015 – Now part of the Co-operative Store

## Catherington

Established 11 June 1933 – Administered by Portsmouth

11 April 1934 – Telegraph Office facilities provided, call sign ZZM

31 March 1978 – Closed

## Lovedean



Established 10 April 1929 – *Post Office Circular*. Administered by Cosham. In the Tudor Stores, built by Mr W G H Ruttle in March 1926, with his son-in-law Frank Silvester as the Sub-Postmaster.

August 1932 – Dog, Gun and Wireless Licences now available from this office

5 December 1932 – Administered by Portsmouth

11 April 1934 – Telegraph Office facilities provided, call sign UVD

1960 – 76 Lovedean Lane, Horndean. *Havant Directory*

1970 – 1978 – Mr R Hewar, Postmaster

1978 – The Tudor Stores converted to a private residence and the Post Office transferred to a local shop

11 April 1990 – Administered by Waterlooville Crown Office.

24 October 2007 – Closed

27 March 2012 – Re-opened in Costcutters Store 337 Milton Road

November 2013 – Closed

2015 – Lovedean Post Office 329 Milton Rd, Cowplain, PO8 8LH

## Horndean

Prior to 1797 – Horndean had been a Sub-Post Office administered by Petersfield

10 July 1797 – Following a study by the General Post Office initiated by Admiral Lord Hood of Catherington, Horndean, was made a chief office. This resulted in the London to Portsmouth mail coach stopping to drop off local letters as it passed through during the night.

10 April 1802 – Post Office minute refers to Mr Wise, Postmaster at Horndean, vacating his appointment leaving a Mr Collins in charge of letters. The appointment of a successor was left to Admiral Lord Hood.

28 November 1812 – Postmaster dismissed accused of theft from mail



The first office was possibly the Ship and Bell Hotel.

1801-1813 – Mileage Mark 62, Type 3.

**HORNDEAN**  
**62**

*Hampshire Telegraph* – Monday 22 November 1802

*"This afternoon two Gentlemen, who were going to Petersfield in a post chaise, were robbed on Horndean Down, by three fellows dressed in sailors' habiliments."*

*Hampshire Chronicle* – Monday 27 April 1807

*"A report is in circulation, that one of the desperadoes that have so long infested this part of the country is taken. A Post Boy was fired at, a few days since, near Horndean; he had however the good fortune to escape unhurt; and on getting to that place, he gave information of the transaction. Some soldiers volunteered their services to scour the Forest of Bere, where there was no doubt but the villain was concealed; they were*

successful, and secured the offender, who was armed with a gun .....It is supposed that he has accomplices; and great hopes are now entertained, that the apprehension of this man will lead to the discovery of them."

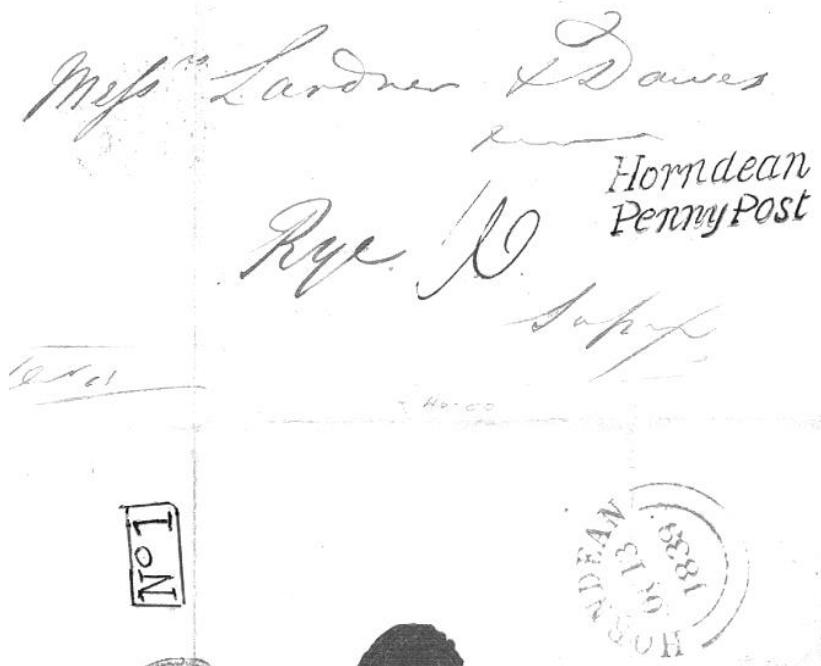
1812-1816 - Mileage Mark 62, Type 4, with sides of box removed.



1826-1828 - Circular Date Stamp with Mileage but date omitted

1830-1838 - Circular Date Stamp with mileage removed

7 Nov 1837 - Penny Post Mark issued to connect with the receiving office at Hambledon and Denmead. Letters were delivered for an additional 1d. per letter. After the introduction of the Uniform Penny Post in 1840 a rural post was set up to cover the villages of Clanfield, Chalton and Finchdean.



1844 – No. 380 allocated



Recorded in use from August 1845 to June 1854



Recorded in use from October 1859 to November 1860



Not recorded in use. Sent from GPO October 1880

4



Recorded in use from June 1873 to August 1880

1851 – John Henry Collis, Postman. *Census*

1855 – Thomas Stephens, Postmaster, age, 69 years. *Post Office Directory*

7 July 1855 – Post Office Minute 159/216: *As the Postmaster of Horndean has failed to discharge the debt due from him within the prescribed period I submit his situation be declared vacant.*

18 August 1855 – Mr Henry Glassee, formerly of Winchester, has been appointed to the Mastership of the Horndean Post Office being vacant by the resignation of Mr Stevens. *Hampshire Chronicle*

12 March 1856 – John Adams, the messenger between Horndean and Chalton, be allowed to resume his duties with a caution as to his future conduct as recommended by the Surveyor. He had been under suspension having been taken into custody for drunkenness and an alleged assault on the Constable but the offence was not committed whilst on duty.

20 March 1858 – Approval given for a letter box to be erected at Barn Green and daily deliveries and collections to be undertaken by this office

25 August 1858 – Wages of the Rural Messenger between Horndean and Barn Green increased from 10 shillings (50p) to 11 shillings (55p) per week

2 September 1858 – The rural posts to Hambledon and Chalton rearranged. The increased cost of £39 8s. (£39.40) justified by increased correspondence

1859 – Mr Henry Glassee, Postmaster, employing: William Frayne – Letter Carrier, Joseph Bridle – Post Office Messenger

Head Office to Sorting Office

1 April 1859 – Finchdean Rural Letter Carrier (Adams) reprimanded for his language to Mr Farrant

18 November – 1861 Savings Branch facilities provided

1870 – Telegraphic Office facilities provided, call sign HLU

1871 – Edward Yeulett, age 58, Postmaster, previously butcher and cattle dealer. Employing Henry Colliss and William Frayne as Post Office Messengers

1881 – Edward Rice Yeulett, age 68, Postmaster

1884 – Railway Sub-Post Office

1891 – Henry G Hewlett, Sub-Postmaster employing: Harry Hurst – Rural Postman, Charles Clay – Postman, William G Pearson – Acting Postman, David McGill – Postman, Louisa Paice – Post Office Assistant. Administered by Cosham

1893? – Moved from 43 London Road to the premises of Charles Bettesworth with his son Charles Albert Bettesworth, Sub-Postmaster



National Telephone 1Y1.

Established 1784.

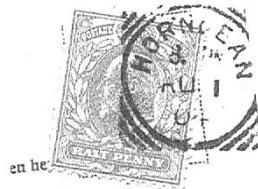
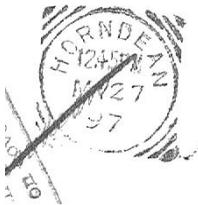
# H. C. Bettesworth & Son,

Stationers, Tobacconists, Ironmongers, &c.,  
... POST OFFICE, HORNDEAN.

HORNIMAN'S PURE TEA. TOWER TEA.  
London Daily and Weekly Newspapers and Periodicals. Depot for the  
sale of S.P.C.K. Publications.

A large assortment of Views of the District always on sale.

An advertisement from an early guide to Horndean and District Note that the business was established in 1784. Henry Thomas Bettesworth was the Superintendent Registrar for Catherington but it was his son Charles who was Sub-Postmaster.



Two Squared Circle postmarks  
Horndean 12.45pm MY 27 1897  
and 8 pm AU 1 1904.



*Horndean Village.*

The Post Office is shown on the right, opposite the Red Lion.

1 August 1905 – Sorting Office and Post Town

1915 – Administered by Cosham



Skeleton Postmarks for Horndean.

5 December 1932 – Administered by Portsmouth

31 December 1937 – D Bettesworth, Postmaster. Letter of thanks published on behalf of Mr J Atkinson, postman, whose home had been completely destroyed by fire for funds totalling £31, *Portsmouth News*. This would have been Dorothy Bettesworth, who succeeded her father Charles Albert Bettesworth, whose retirement was recorded by Herbert Marshall in the photograph below.



Retirement of Charles Albert Bettesworth. *Herbert Marshall*.

11 April 1990 – Administered by Waterlooville

2015 – Horndean Post Office, 2 Portsmouth Road, Horndean, PO8 9LB. Tel. 023 9259 2108

## Chalton

Established 1888 – Administered by Cosham Railway Sorting Office, John and Jane Sims, Grocer and Baker. *Census*

July 1890 – Administered by Horndean Railway Sorting Office

1901 – John and Jane Sims, Grocer and Baker of Woodcroft, *Census*. Rubber handstamp issued

1918 – Administered by Cosham



Postmark CHALTON – COSHAM – HANTS  
29 Ju 1926.



Chalton Post Office circa 1926.

5 December 1932 – Administered by Portsmouth

28 August 1981 – Closed

## Clanfield

Established 1886 – Administered by Horndean Railway Sorting Office

1891 – Elizabeth Jane Coles. *Census*

1899 – Rubber handstamp issued

1901 – Elizabeth Jane Coles, Grocer and Shopkeeper. *Census*

1911 – Kate Latter, Postmistress, *Census*



1915 – Administered by Cosham

5 December 1932 – Administered by Portsmouth

11 April 1990 – Administered by Waterlooville Crown Office

1996 – Mr Dennis Bradley, Sub Postmaster. Possible move to Co-operative Store discussed

December 2012 – 14 White Dirt Lane, Clanfield, Waterlooville, PO8 0QL



The old Post Office now known as The Old Post Cottage, June 2015.

## About the author

Mike was born in Parkstone, Poole, Dorset in 1937 and his interest in stamp collecting, like many boys of that period, started with letters arriving from relatives serving in WW2. A sixpenny album from Woolworths and some penny packets of mixed Commonwealth stamps were sufficient to get started. Joining Poole Grammar School in 1948 he joined the school stamp club, where he served as Secretary, until leaving to join the Royal Navy. Now he was able to visit the places which, until then, he had only seen on stamps.

He joined the Waterlooville Stamp Club when it was formed in 1973, serving as Treasurer, Vice Chairman and now Chairman. The club meets at the Westbrook Hall, Tempest Avenue on the third Thursday of every month. Honorary Secretary, Paul Davidson, 023 9259 3987.

The hobby has changed dramatically during the past 70 years and is no longer confined to sets of stamps but now involves Thematics, Postal History and Postcards.

No research project can ever be considered complete and if you have further details or comments then please let Mike know at [hillmoore@aol.com](mailto:hillmoore@aol.com)

## Bibliography

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## Websites

[www.historicaldirectories.org](http://www.historicaldirectories.org)

[www.findmypast](http://www.findmypast) for Census Records and Newspapers

[www.freebmd](http://www.freebmd) for Births, Marriage and Death records



Commemorative mug issued to celebrate the opening of the new Waterlooville delivery office in Waterberry Drive, 10th March 1992.

